

some  
in the NHRC

My Commission friends in their desire to help our City seem to have forgotten that I resigned -- the Mayor did not fire me. He only "fired back" at me impulsively after I had told too much truth for an honest answer.

The fact is that my resignation, trivial as it may seem, apparently has triggered a momentary City Hall peace with CORE and, at long last, <sup>some VERY</sup> questionable Police action by Director Spina. I hope that neither of these remedies has come too late to heal the angry wounds which have been festering for so long in the hearts of Negroes and Puerto Ricans.

I deeply appreciate this sincere vote of confidence. But of course all the Commissioners know as well as I do that this thoughtful gesture of concern for Human Rights in Newark must be turned down by the Mayor. He and I have already made our positions quite clear.

I did not resign as a grandstand play and I have no intention of giving the Mayor cause for any further embarrassment. He certainly has enough problems of his own at this time. I will therefore request the Commission to waste no more time on me <sup>or</sup> ~~over~~ my return. Their valuable time during this long hot summer can be far better spent in telling the Mayor that he will defeat his own purposes if he makes a political patronage appointment for this job of Newark Human Rights Director.

I would like to remind the Mayor that one of the many reasons for my resignation was that he had taken all power away from the Commission and its Director in the selection of its own staff personnel. And that he totally disregarded all professional qualifications. It would be a tragic error to perpetuate this policy

in the selection of a Director. It is the Commission's job to screen and select the Director. It is only the Mayor's job to appoint him. I hope he can be convinced of this.

At the rate our racial problems are increasing in Newark, the Executive Director of the Human Rights Commission is going to have as big a job as the Police Director. He will certainly have to command as much respect as the Corporation Counsel. He may even have to advise him on some realities of civil rights and race relations.

In view of the fact that I do not now, nor did I ever have the confidence or respect of the Police Director or the Corporation Counsel, and since these two department heads will have to work much more closely with the Human Rights Director in the future, my return would be contrary to the best interests of the Mayor and of a peaceful and integrated city.

I regret this deeply, but I believe these are the facts. There is still no way out for me but all the way out.